



# Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 5025.12

June 30, 2004

---

---

DA&M

SUBJECT: Standardization of Military and Associated Terminology

References: (a) DoD Directive 5025.12, subject as above, August 23, 1989 (hereby canceled)  
(b) Joint Publication 1-02, "Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms," current edition

## 1. PURPOSE

This Directive:

1.1. Reissues reference (a) to update policies and responsibilities for the standardization of military and associated terminology within the Department of Defense.

1.2. Authorizes the continued development, issuance, and maintenance of Joint Pub 1-02, "Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms" (reference (b)).

## 2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Defense, the Combatant Commands, the Defense Agencies, and all other organizational entities in the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to as the "DoD Components").

### 3. POLICY

3.1. It is DoD policy to improve communications and mutual understanding within the Department of Defense, with other Federal Agencies, and between the United States and its allies through the standardization of military and associated terminology.

3.2. This Directive does not restrict the use and publication of terms and definitions for unique functional areas or unilateral use by individual DoD Components. However, any military or associated term or definition that involves DoD interest or use across functional boundaries may be nominated for inclusion in reference (b) if appropriate.

3.3. Terms used in information systems, reports, or forms, whether automated or manual, shall be processed as part of the DoD Standard Data Element and Data Code Program and may be nominated for inclusion in reference (b) if appropriate.

3.5. DoD Terminology may be approved for inclusion in reference (b) in the following ways:

3.5.1. Terminology approved in joint doctrine publications.

3.5.2. Terminology proposed from sources other than joint doctrine publications.

3.5.3. Terminology directed by the Secretary of Defense or the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

3.5.4. Terminology from NATO.

3.5.5. Conflicts shall be resolved by the DoD Terminology Coordinating Working Group.

### 4. RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. The Director of Administration and Management, Office of the Secretary of Defense (DA&M, OSD), shall provide OSD policy guidance and advice on the compilation and publication of standardized military terminology.

4.2.1. The Director, Washington Headquarters Services shall:

4.2.1.1. Staff proposed additions, deletions, and changes to reference (b) within the OSD Components.

4.2.1.2. Forward recommended terminology changes to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

4.3. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:


4.3.1. Develop, issue, and maintain reference (b).

4.3.2. Establish procedures to ensure that changes and revisions to reference (b) are coordinated with the DoD Components.

4.4. The Heads of the DoD Components shall ensure that any term and its definitions that may be of DoD interest and usage shall be submitted to their Component terminology point of contact to be considered for inclusion in reference (b).

## 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Paul Wolfowitz  
Deputy Secretary of Defense